

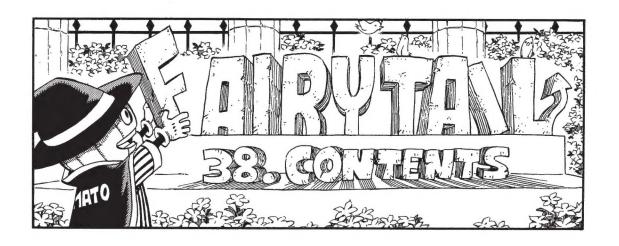
Hiro Mashima



38



HIRD MASHIMA



Chapter 318: Gajeel vs. Rogue - - - 3

Chapter 319: White Knight - - 29

Chapter 320: Attacking Lightning - - 49

Chapter 321: Laxus vs. Jura 🖦 🖦 69

Chapter 322: Gloria + + + 89

Chapter 323: The Shadow: There and Back Again 🕒 🖦 🖦 125

Chapter 324: One Who Would Close the Door 3-4-5-145

Chapter 325: Solidarity!!!! - - - 165



Chapter 318: Gajeel vs. Rogue

















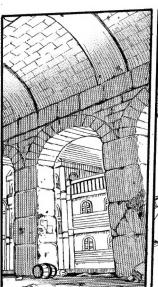










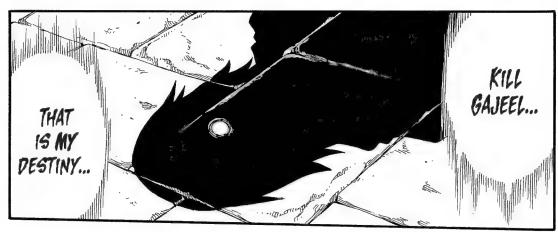




















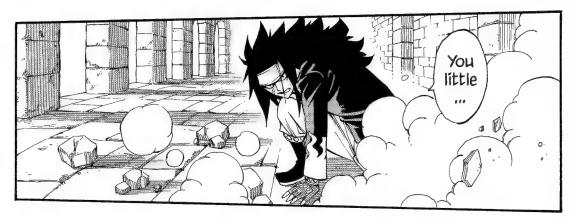
















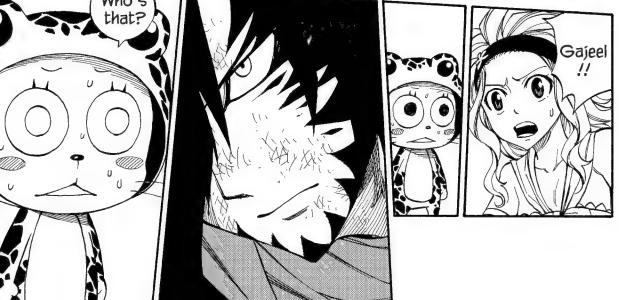












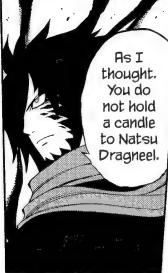






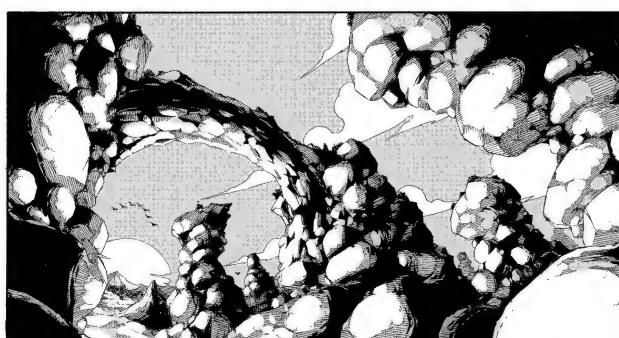


















However, if Natsu and the others are with her, then there is no need for panic.



The Lucy from the future was caught up in a battle.













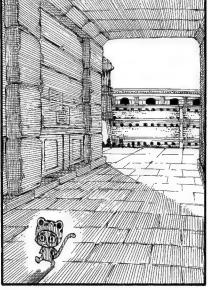












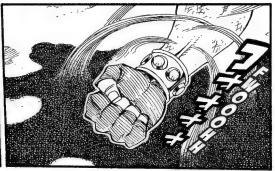


IF





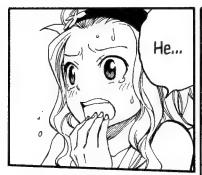




























Chapter 319: White Knight



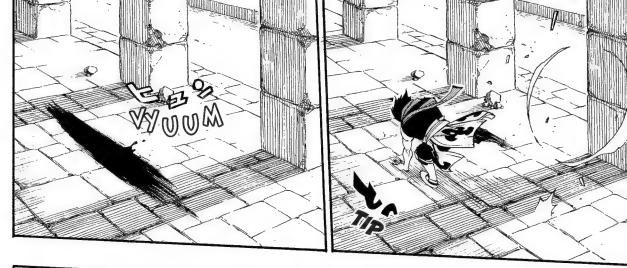








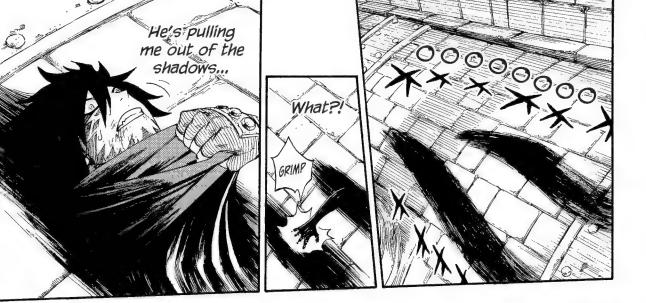


















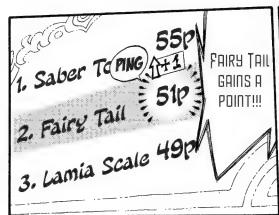


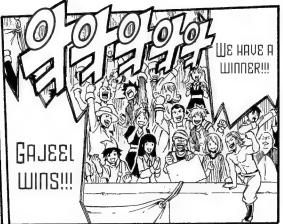














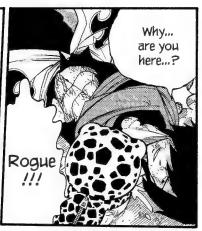






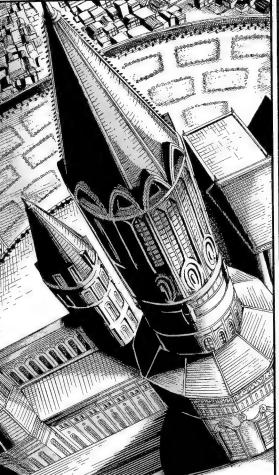




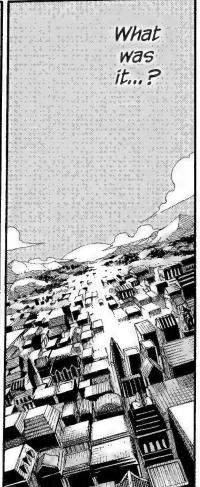






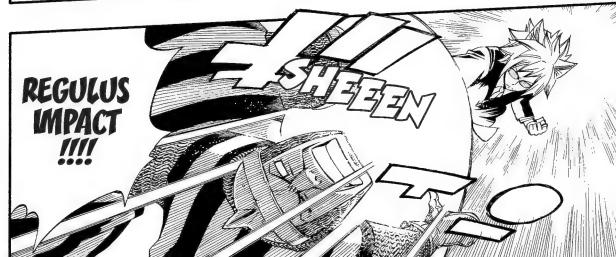


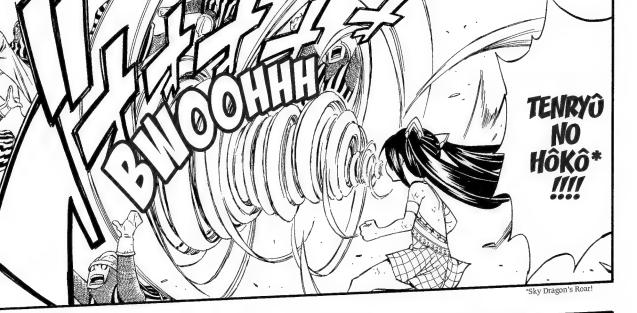












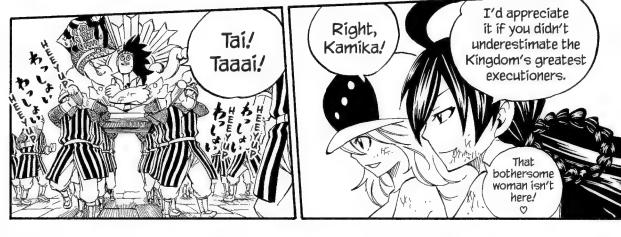






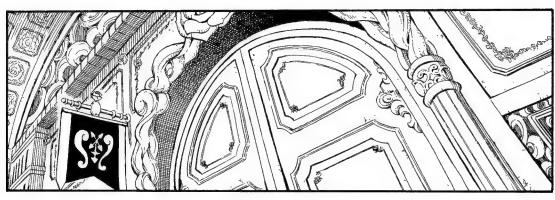


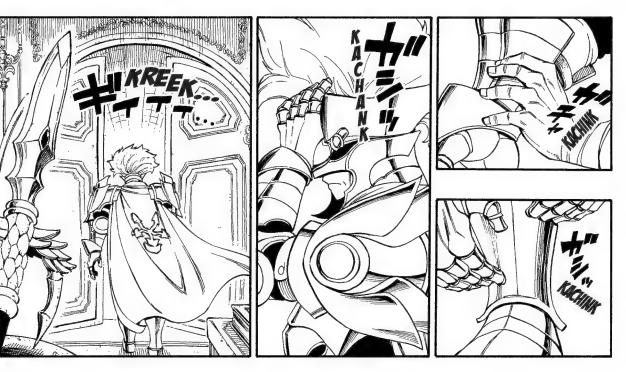




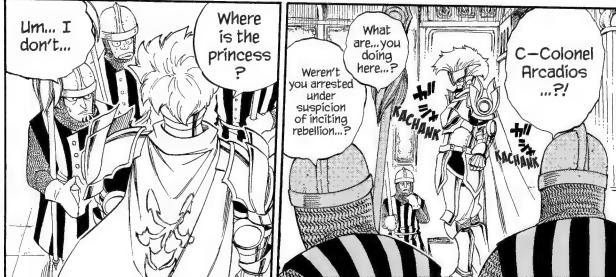




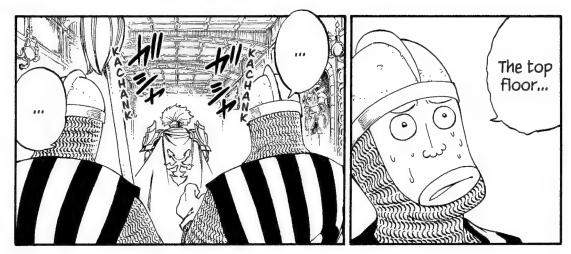






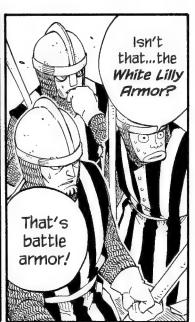












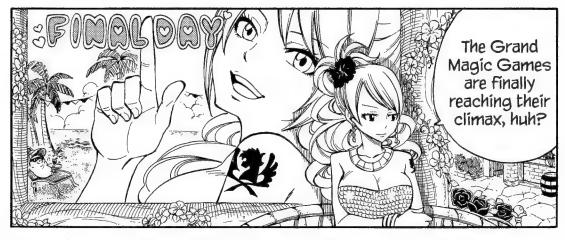








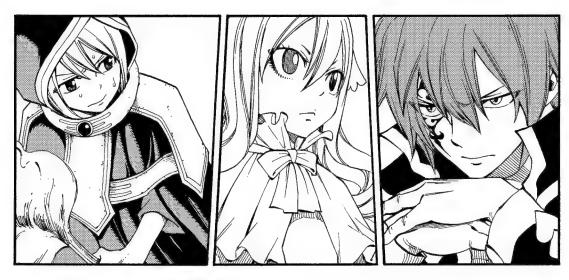


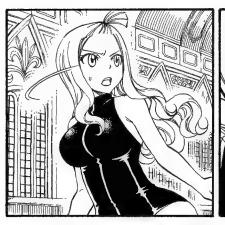


Chapter 320: Attacking Lightning

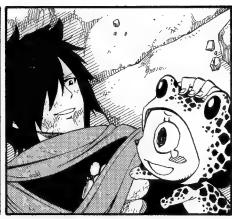








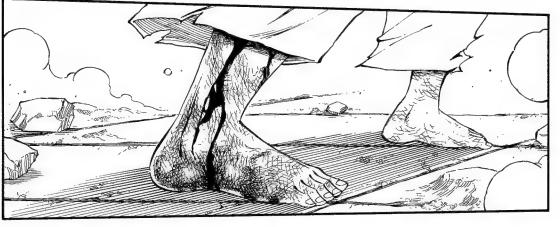
















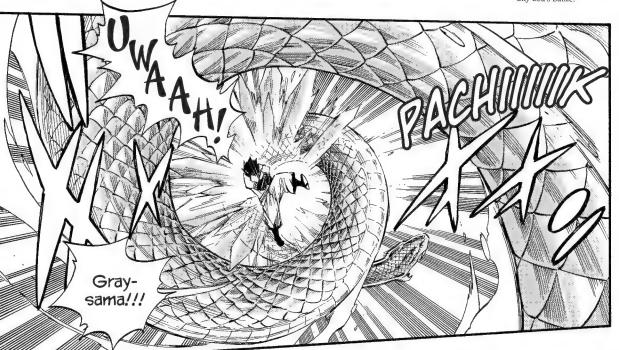




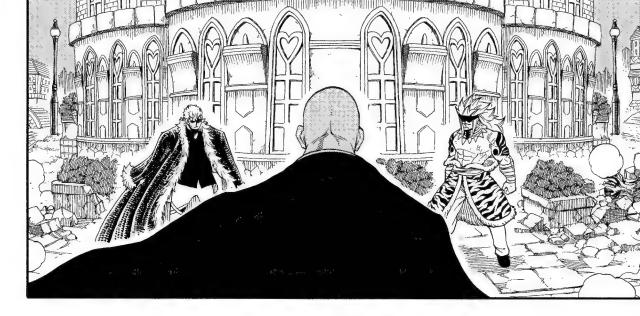
Consider this the public execution of Titania the Fairy Queen.







































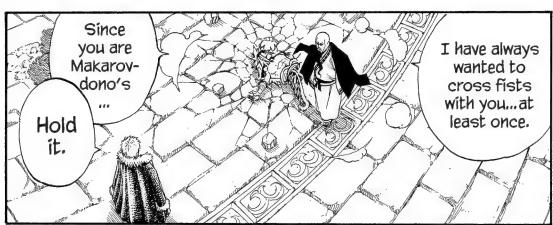


















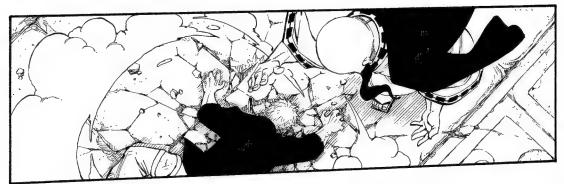










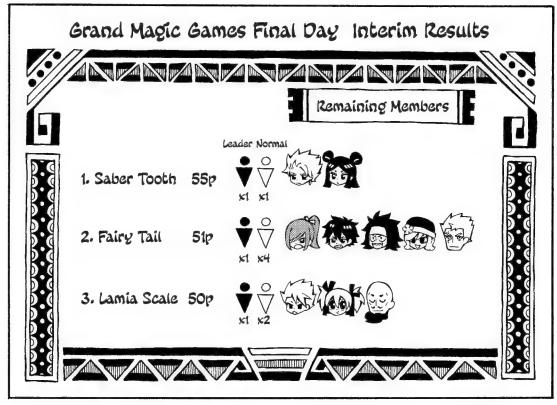








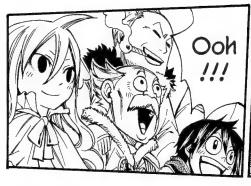


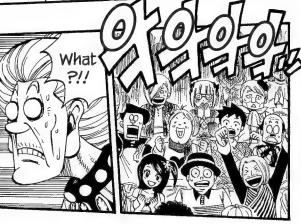




Chapter 321: Laxus vs. Jura



















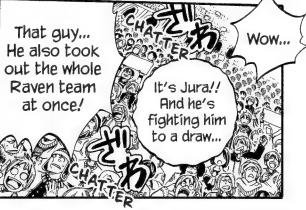














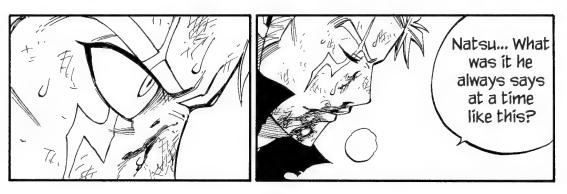














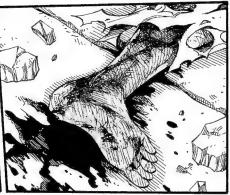




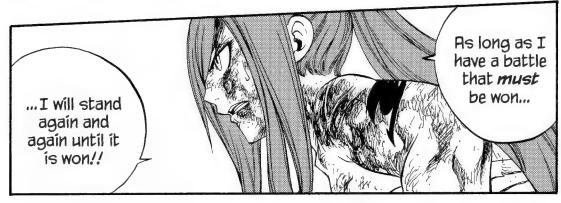






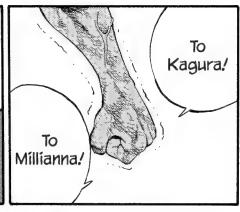
















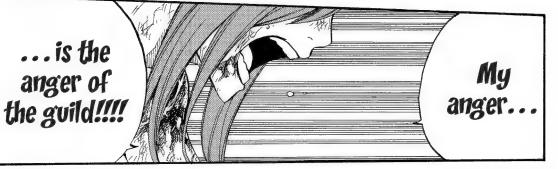












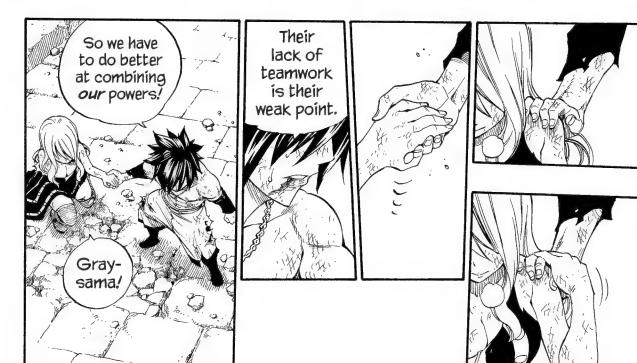




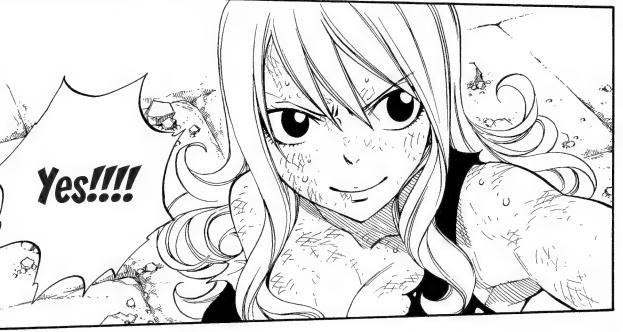














































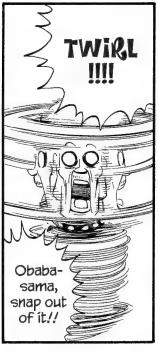










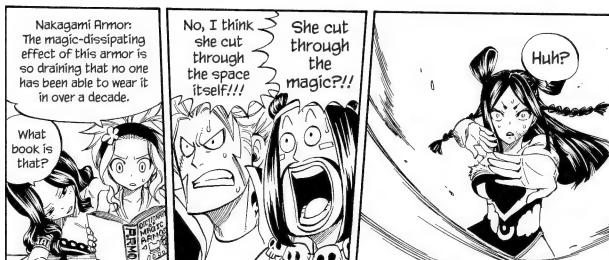


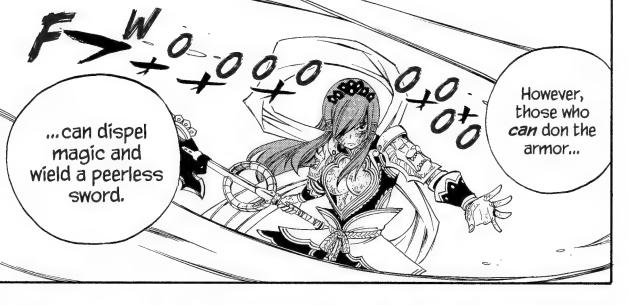
















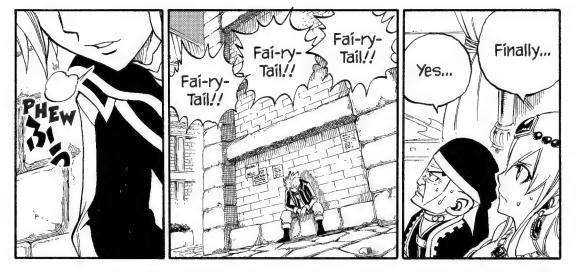




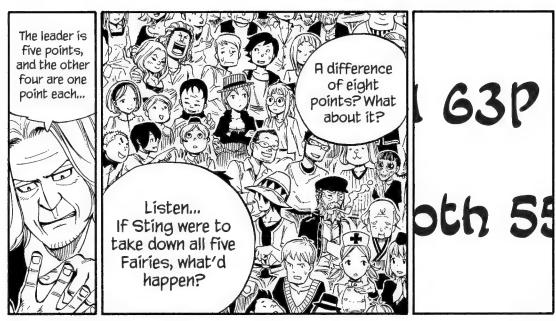




























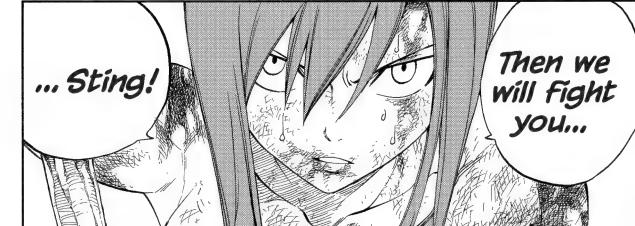








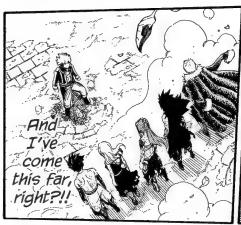








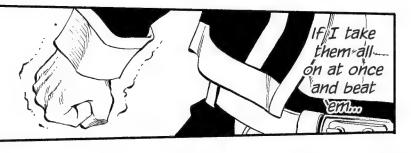








...I can see Lecter again...













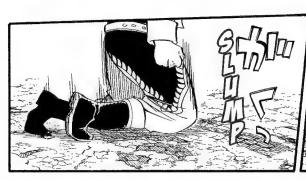














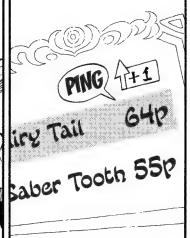
















































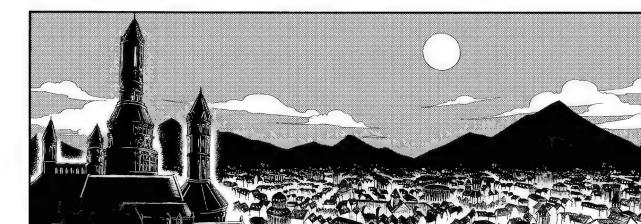








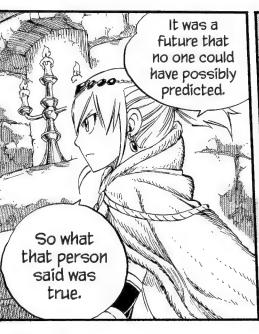




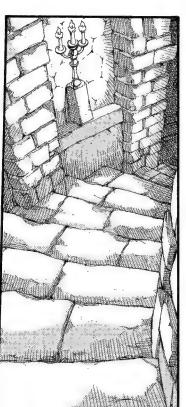














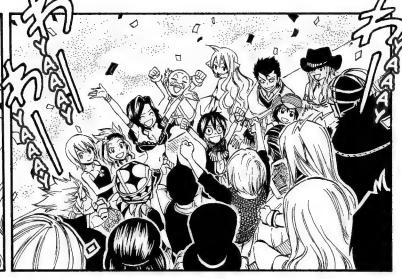


Chapter 323: The Shadow: There and Back Again





















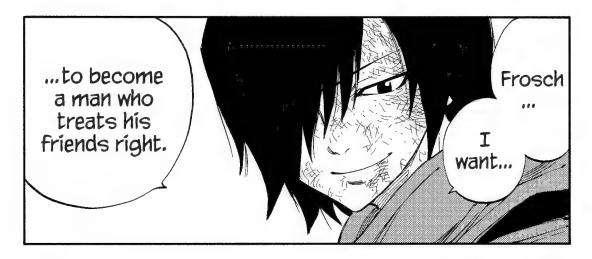


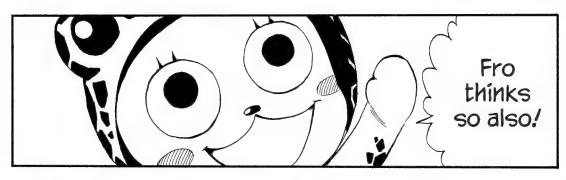


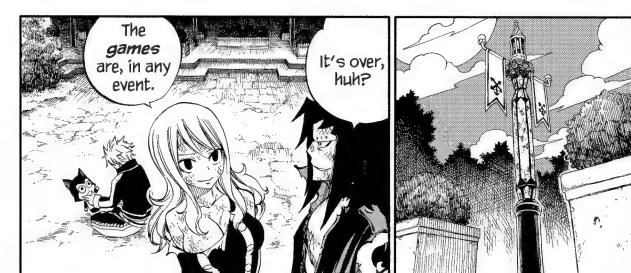










































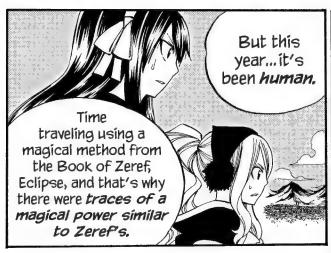


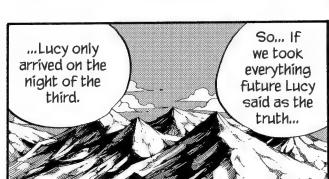






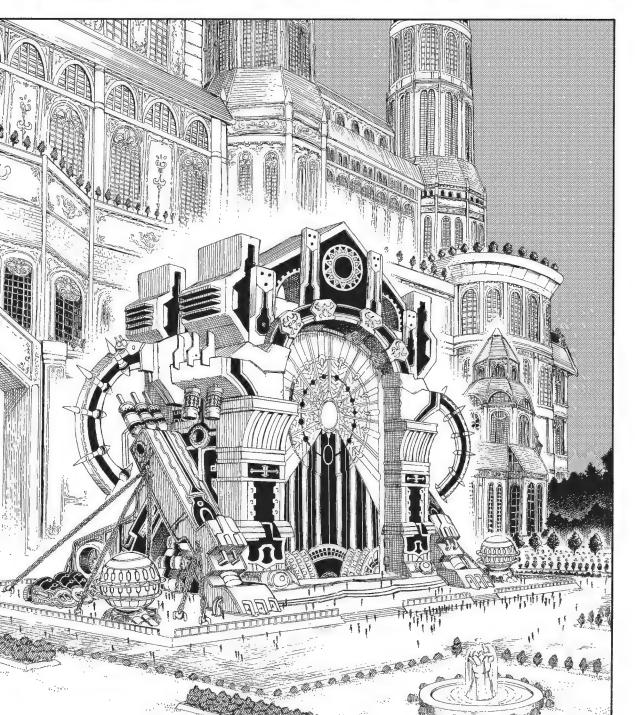




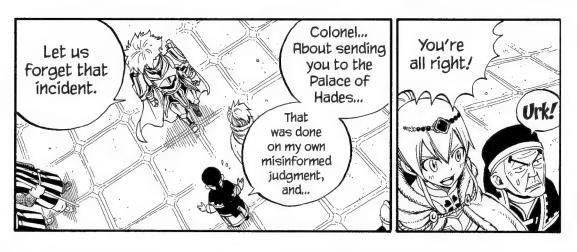


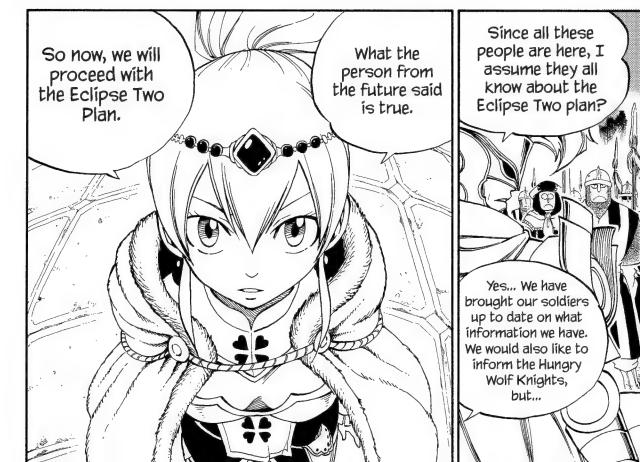


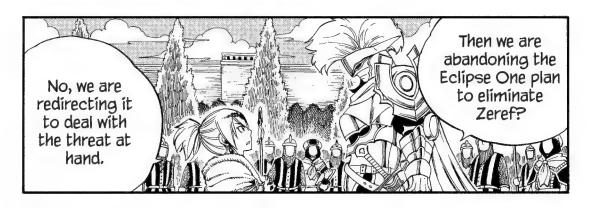




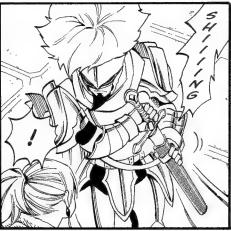


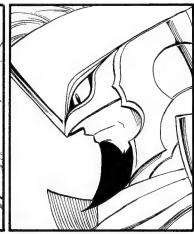












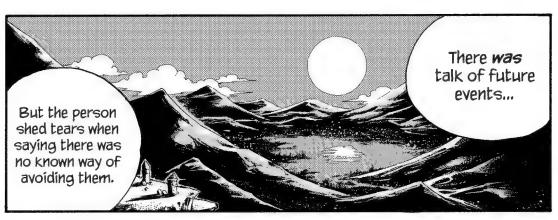


















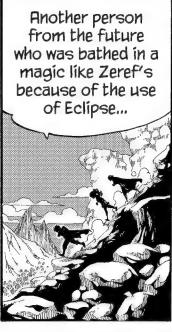








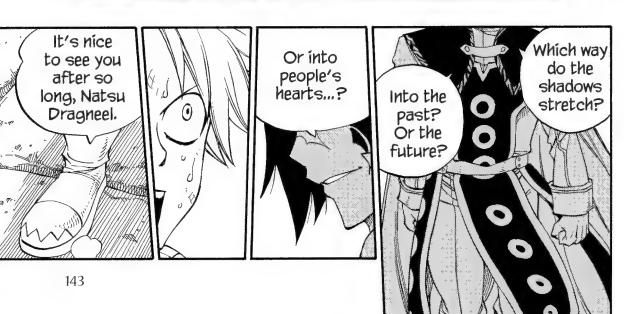
















Chapter 324: One Who Would Close the Door

















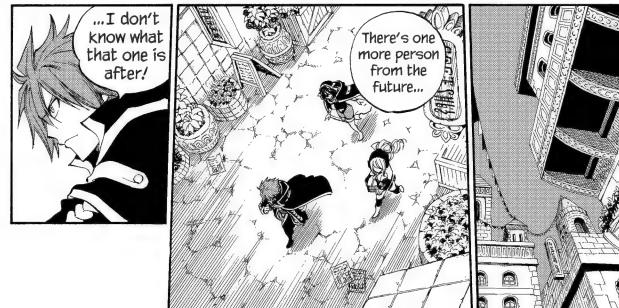


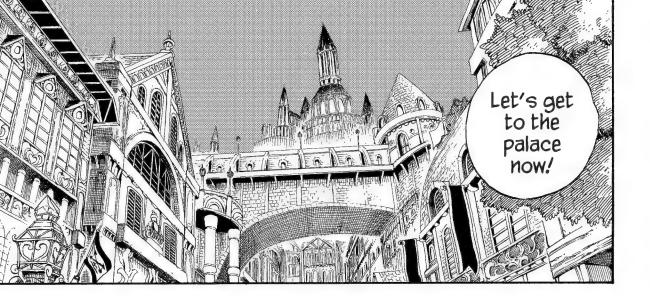








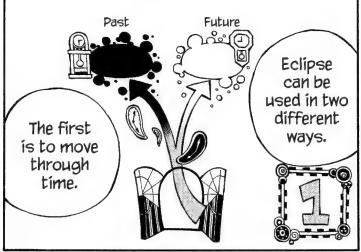




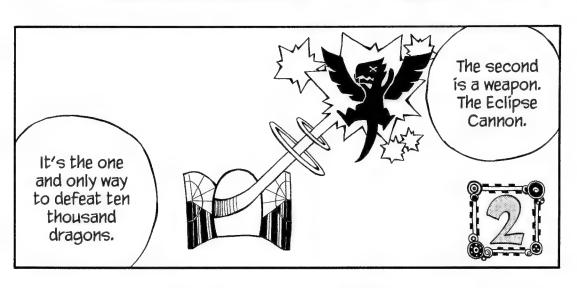






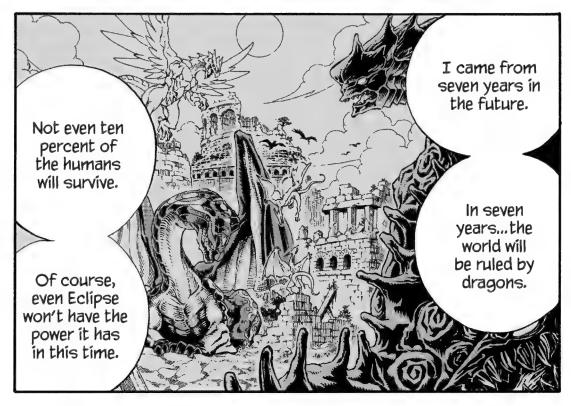














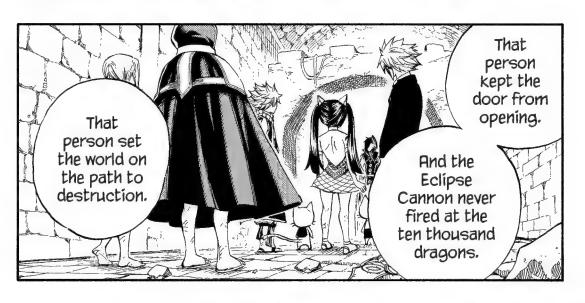












































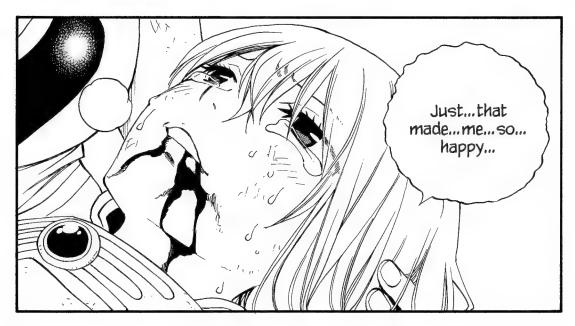






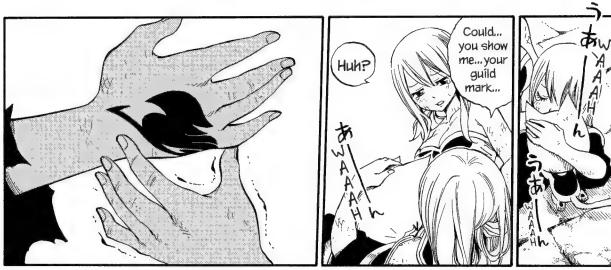


























ç

0







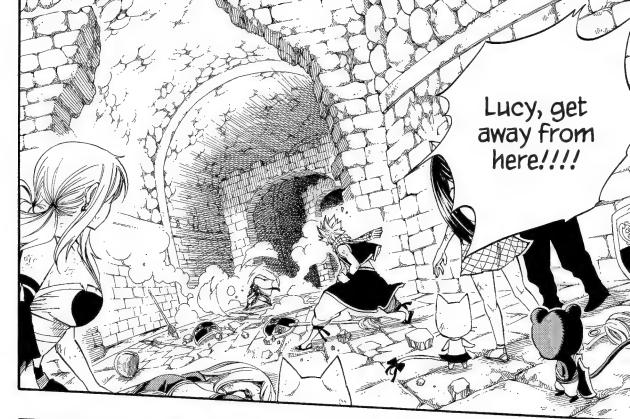






Chapter 325: Solidarity!!!!





















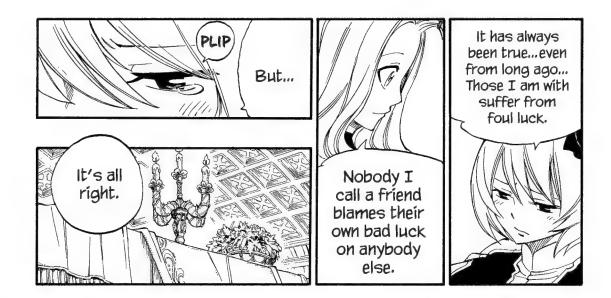




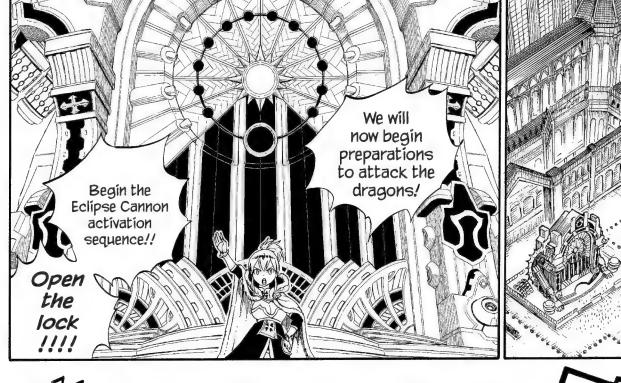




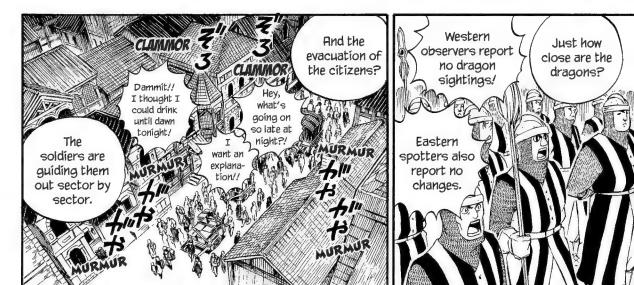




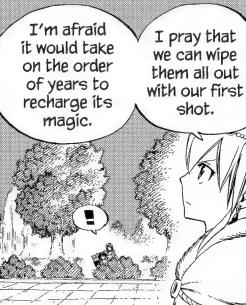




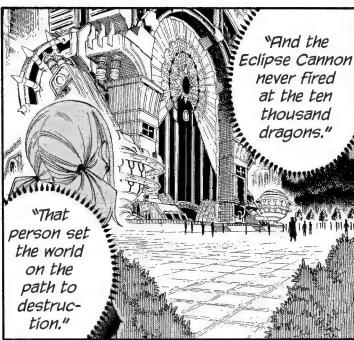






























































































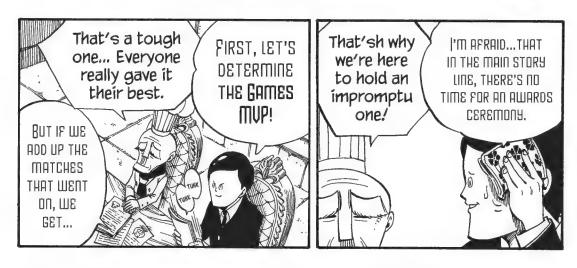


Ever since I was a kid, I loved manga with battles! I'd try to imagine if this character fought that one, which one would win (so exciting!), and it's probably because I spent my youth steeped in those fantasies that I wound up drawing battle manga myself. But there are plenty of other manga doing tournaments and competition stories, huh? And then they'd have great plot twists! Yeah, battle manga is the ultimate path for manga!

But I'm a little twisted myself, so even if I'm doing a tournament, I try to make sure that battles aren't all there is to it. Sure, I thought of plot lines that are just about the battles... But if I just did that, then the chances for the main character, Natsu, to show his stuff get drastically reduced. So I do battle, break, battle, and behind it all, I have another story going on (the Eclipse plan), until it becomes a really complicated plot. In fact, it was so complicated, there were a lot of places where my original ideas started to be inconsistent with how they actually went. So much so that as things went on, there were so many adjustments and rewrites to keep things on track in this story arc that it was wearing me out! I'll bet you can still find all sorts of contradictions that are still in there (sweat)!

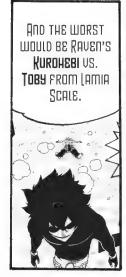
Now, in the Japanese release of Volume 39 there will again be a normal version and a special edition. In the special edition, there will be an anime DVD that includes a collaboration between Fairy Tail and my previous work, Rave. After so long, we get to see moving versions of Haru and Elie!

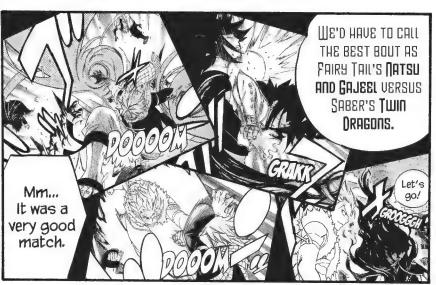




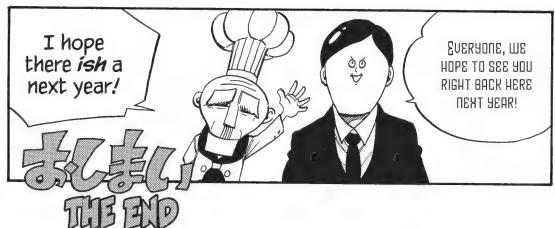


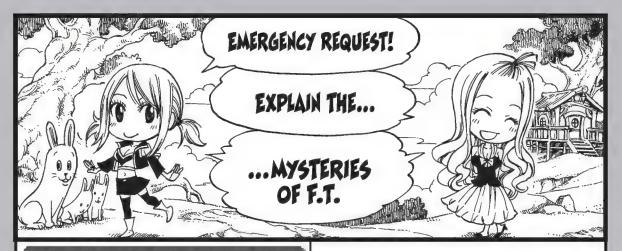












At some open space somewhere...



:Hellall!!♡



: What that, all of a sudden?

Mira: It's "Hello all" shortened. Hellall! \bigcirc

Lucy: That is never going to catch on!

Mira: Let's have the first question of this column!

In Pandemonium, Erza defeated 100 monsters, but wouldn't she have won with just 51?



LUCY: We got a lot of this one!

Mira: It's a little on the "old" side, but since we got so many of them, we decided to pick it out and answer it.

Lucy: I'll bet nobody even remembers the rules to it.

Mira: There was an actual reason for her actions, from Erza's point of view. And it's a very Erza thing to do.

Lucy: Is that so?

Mira: Remember the order of players in the game.



: If I remember right, Erza was first, and the middle guys are a blur, and finally came Cana, I think.

Mira: That's it! That's the point.
Sure, if she defeated 51
monsters, she'd win, but
afterwards, the rest of the
field would have to finish off
the other 49.



You're right! With everybody going in order and Cana last in line, it'd be very unlikely for Cana to come in second.



She wouldn't have known that the next game would be "MPF," but she defeated all hundred monsters hoping to give Cana a better chance.

Lucy: That's Erza for you!

Mira: Next question!

I get the feeling there are too many brothers and sisters in this manga.



Continued on the right-hand page.

Continued from the left-hand page.

Lucy:

Mira:



: I'd say there's not much we can do about that.



True... The longer you go on a manga, the more similar setups start to appear...

Lucy: Your relationship with Elfman was hidden at the very beginning, huh?

Mira: At least from the readers. But we were the first brothersister combination in the concept.

And it's pretty obvious that certain brother-sister relationships were added in after the fact...



: You're not supposed to say that.

Lucy: I'm a little jealous since it's only in the anime that I get anything close to a brother or sister.

Mira: Actually there are some sibling pairings that have been set up, but still haven't been revealed. But with readers saying, "there are too many brother-sister pairings," the author may flinch at revealing them now.

Lucy: You mean about Yukino?

Mira: I'm sure there are many people who are already aware of that one, but I'm talking about some that haven't been touched on yet.



Whoa! Now you've got me curious!! Who are you talking about?!

Mira: It's a secret. It still may come out in the story, although we don't know for sure.

Lucy: Okay, last question.

How many volumes is FT going to go?

*The previous series, Rave, went 35 volumes.



Mira: Recently this question has been coming up a lot!

Yeah. Since it really seems like it's coming to a big climax, there are a lot of people who think this series is racing toward its final volume.

Mira: To tell the truth, there's been no decision on what volume it will end, but it's still got a long way to go. I'm pretty sure.



If you collect the stories of this particular story arc, it started with a theme of "festival."

Mira: But the story has gone on a long time with so many characters!

Lucy: But if you're worried that it's almost over, you can relax.



: Please stay with us, okay?



Wow! We wrapped that up really nicely!! Sure, we started out with a weird "hello" at the beginning, but we pulled it all together in a pretty package!

Mira: "Weird hello?"

Lucy: You've forgotten already.

Mira: Of course I remember!

Moun-tain-li-on-pon!



Nope. Not that.

Send to Hiro Mashima, Kodansha Comics

451 Park Ave. South, 7th Floor New York, NY 10016

FAIRY TAIL

The Fairy Tail Guild is looking for illustrations! Please send in your art on a postcard or at postcard size, and do it in black pen, okay? Those chosen to be published will get a signed mini poster! > Make sure you write your real name and address on the back of your illustration!

always such a close family! I'm happy that people

draw pictures





thankful to the fans who came up with these



▲ Big brother Thunder is

strong and cool, huh? We gotta give him more chances

asaki Prefecture, Tomoka Sasano



AHe says this is how Yajima-san looked when he was a working wizard! Is that true?! (laughs)



▲ Now this is adorable! I must say that Gray looks cute in a cat costume.

Saitama Prefecture, Ryôta Takada



the Twin Dragons! Very



▲ The composition and layout are quite professional. Very well done!!

That is

do my best! I

but do

now!

my best

amazingly cute! I'll

can't help



▲ Kamika-san. She doesn't stand out very much, but she is very tall.

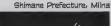
By sending in letters or postcards, you give us permission to give your name, address, postal code, and any other information you include to the artist as-is. Please keep that in mind.



One of the > great things to have watched during the games was how Chapati coordinated his wigs!



Hyogo Prefecture, Yura ika





▲ Her impish grin is incredible



Celestial Spirits! Ah! Only the girls, huh?



▲ is he male? is she female? Fro has a lot of mysteries. But the most basic is: Is this a cat or

lwate Prefecture, Mameko



▲ She's a ghost, but the first master shows up quite a lot. And she still has

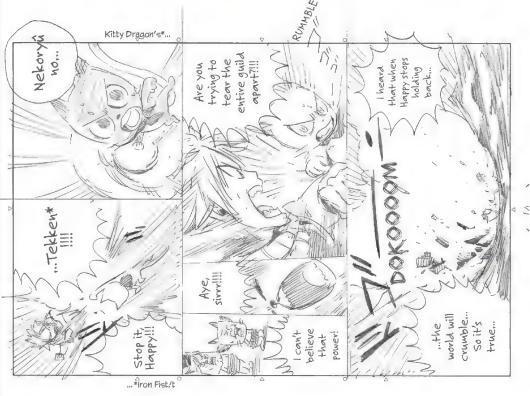
Kanagawa Prefecture, Koro Koro Whoa!





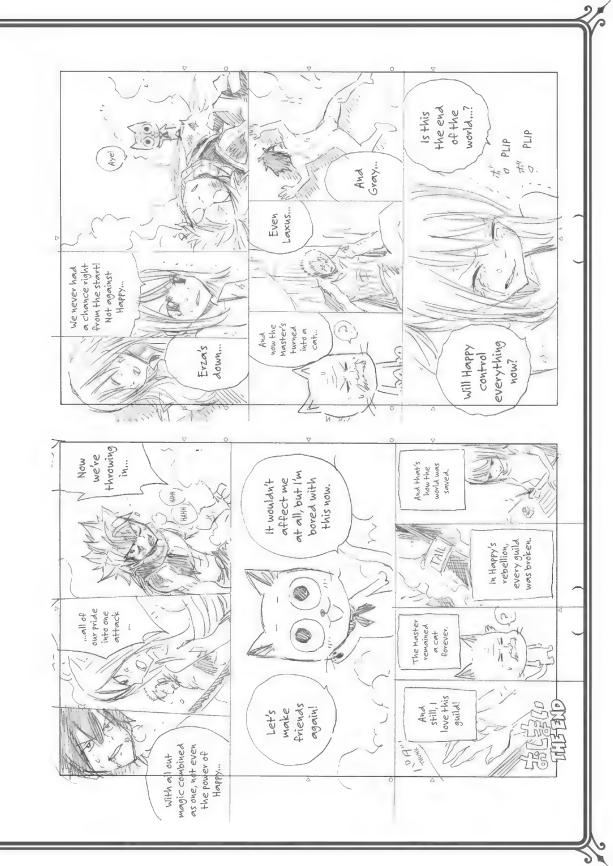
some reason Plue is there





Twitter account: @hiro_mashima

明真島匕口明明



FROM HIRD MASHINA



Recently, I've been trying out a lot of paint programs, but there still isn't any that I'd hold up and say, "This is my ideal paint program!!" While trying to color a drawing, I'm always frustrated that it doesn't have this feature or that feature. The drawing on the cover of this book has three types of coloring, all of them different.

Translation Notes:

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction with our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

Page 15, Waxwing

A waxwing is a small perching bird, varieties of which can be found in Japan, Asia, Europe, and North America. The Japanese variety is called *renjaku* by the Japanese.



Page 55, Mizuchi

Lyon's attack, Mizuchi, refers to a dragon out of Japanese legends. The early legends regarding Mizuchi have been lost, so it is not known whether it originally referred to a single dragon or all dragons with a close relationship with water, however existing early legends connect them to rivers or the sea.

Page 71, Scree

Scree is the English word for Jura's *gaisui* attack. It refers to the pile of rocky debris that accumulates at the base of cliffs and other steep slopes. It is also known as a talus.



Page 83, Nakagami Armor

Nakagami, also known as Tenichijin or Tenitsujin, is one of the Twelve Generals of Heaven as described by the famous *onmyôji* (astrologer and mystic) Abe no Seimei during the Heian period a thousand years ago. The Twelve Generals refer to constellations, and among the twelve used in Abe no Seimei's astrology, Nakagami was the chief of the twelve god generals.



Page 86, Narumikazuchi

Although the normal word for thunder and lighting in Japanese is *kaminari*, there is another word, *ikazuchi*, which connotes to Japanese speakers lightning directed by a god. Indeed there is a god's name, Takemikazuchi, which uses the term *mikazuchi*, although this translator was not able to find any reference to a specific god named Narumikazuchi. *Naru* means a roar as in a lion's, and *mikazuchi* means thunder and lightning, so the translation is correct. Unfortunately, the English was not able to carry the nuance of god-directed lightning that is in the Japanese.

Page 101, Nakagami Asterism

As mentioned above, Nakagami was taken from the astrology of Abe no Seimei, and those relate to constellations in the night sky. However, technically some "constellations" such as the Big Dipper are not actual official constellations, but pictures that the stars make in the sky. (The stars of the big dipper are only a part of the Ursa Major constellation.) There is a word for the pictures the stars make in the sky, such as the big dipper or the teapot of Sagittarius: They are called "asterisms." The Japanese name for the attack, seisai, means "asterism."



Page 125, There and Back Again

The Japanese words used in the title of this chapter are the same words that are found in the official Japanese title for the book, The Hobbit.

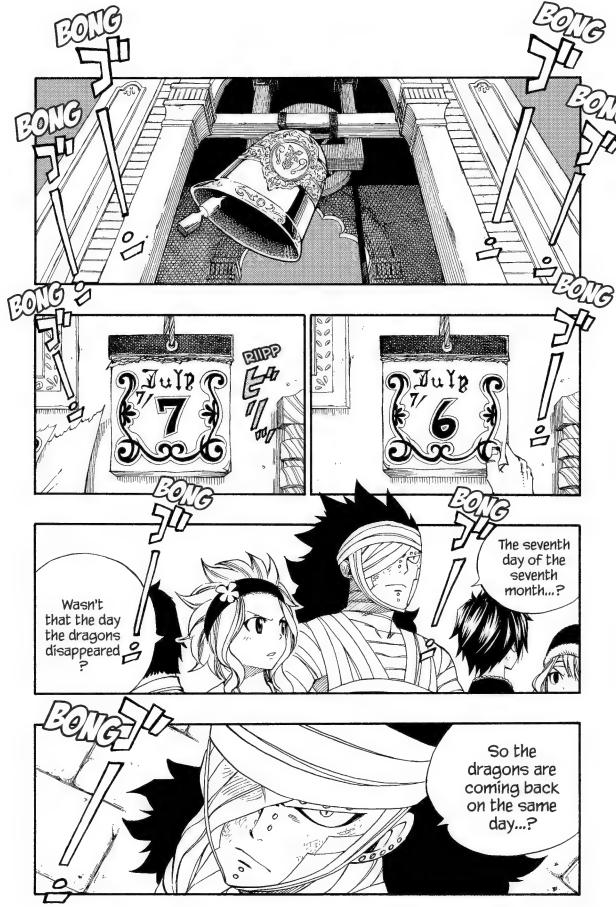
Chapter 323: The Shadow: There and Back Again



Preview of Fairy Tail, volume 39

We're pleased to present you with a preview from Fairy Tail, volume 39, now available on digital devices and coming to print in June 2014. See our Web site (www.kodanshacomics.com) for more details!



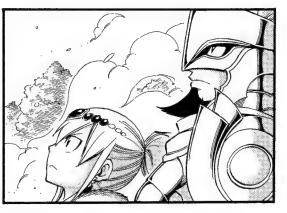






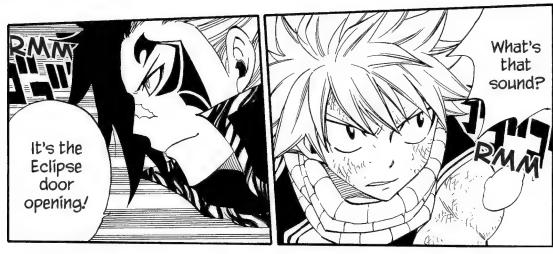






























Fairy Tail volume 38 is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

A Kodansha Comics Trade Paperback Original.

Fairy Tail volume 38 copyright © 2013 Hiro Mashima English translation copyright © 2014 Hiro Mashima

All rights reserved.

Published in the United States by Kodansha Comics, an imprint of Kodansha USA Publishing, LLC, New York.

Publication rights for this English edition arranged through Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.

First published in Japan in 2013 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo ISBN 978-1-61262-434-1

Printed in the United States of America.

www.kodanshacomics.com

987654321

Translation: William Flanagan Lettering: AndWorld Design Editing: Ben Applegate

TOMARE!



You're going the wrong way!

Manga is a completely different type of reading experience.

To start at the *beginning*, go to the *end!*

That's right! Authentic manga is read the traditional Japanese way—from right to left, exactly the *opposite* of how American books are read. It's easy to follow: Just go to the other end of the book and read each page—and each panel—from right side to left side, starting at the top right. Now you're experiencing manga as it was meant to be!